

MODIFIED RETINOID COMPOUNDS AND THEIR USES

ABSTRACT

A method of minimizing or reducing the toxicity of a retinoid having a free
5 carboxyl group and the resulting modified retinoids are described. The method
comprises the step of esterifying the carboxyl group of the retinoid with a highly
sterically hindered compound, which is preferably a secondary or tertiary alcohol.
The resulting retinoid esters are rendered much less toxic than the starting or parent
retinoid. This process provides a retinoid ester analog of reduced toxicity so that it
10 may be administered orally with minimal side effects and with a much greater
therapeutic window. The modified retinoid compounds are useful in the treatment
and prophylaxis of all diseases and disorders where retinoid compounds have been
shown effective.